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Ray Giradin Spotted One With Peter Bogdanovich

Star of 'General Hospital' Didn't Report UFO He Saw

By DON WAGNER

Actor Ray Giradin saw a flying saucer, in the late 1950s, but never said anything about it until now because he didn't want to be laughed at.

"The thing about UFOs is that there is so much fakery around the subject," Giradin told TATTLER. The actor portrays "Howie Dawson" on ABC-TV's "General Hospital."

"Therefore, if someone does see something that is legitimate, people tend not to believe it," he observed.

Giradin remained silent until now because he was convinced that no one would take his sighting seriously.

"It was in the late 1950s, when I was working in a summer-stock production on Cape Cod," he recalled.

"It was about midnight, after the show, and a bunch of us in the show were in the main house on the estate where the theater was located."

The young actor and another man – Peter Bogdanovich, who was to become one of Hollywood's top directors – decided to leave and get to bed early to rest for early morning rehearsals.

"We left the house," Giradin recounted, "heading for our living quarters, when suddenly Peter said: 'Look at that shooting star.' "

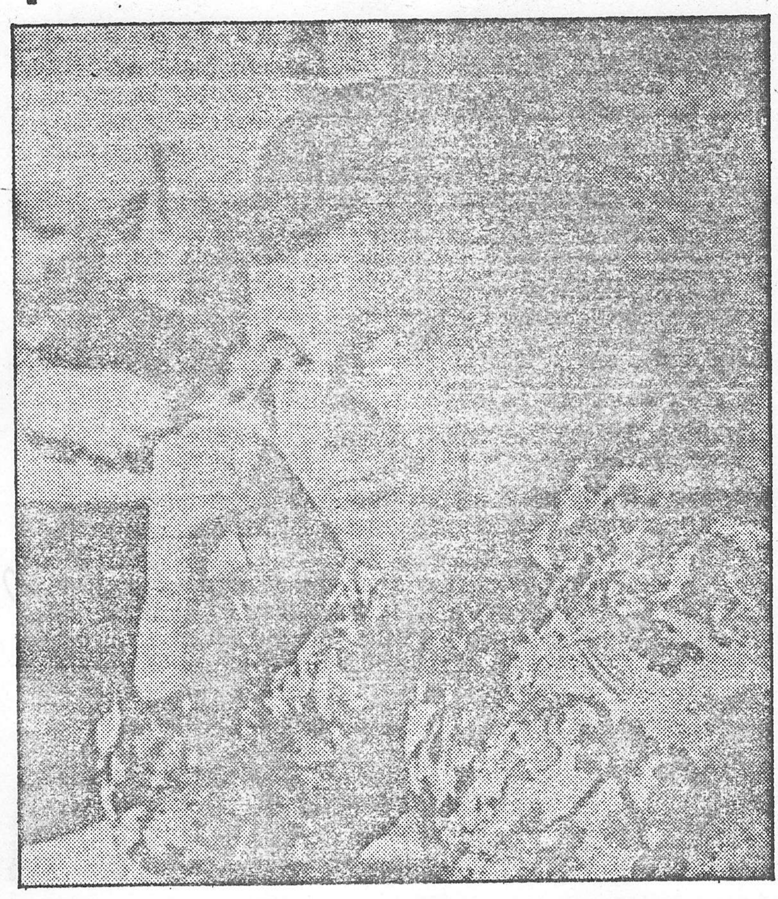
It was no shooting star, Giradin insisted.

"It was one white light, going quite fast from left to right across the sky, as we looked at it," he recalled.

"It stopped dead in the sky, and stayed in one spot for about 30 seconds. While it was there, it turned from white to pink to red."

Neither Giradin nor Bogdanovich could believe their eyes.

"Then it began moving away from us, in a start-and-stop motion," he told TATTLER.



TV'S Ray Giradin didn't report episode for fear of being razzed.



PETER BOGDANOVICH

"It stopped one last time. Then it went away, in a flash, over the horizon behind some trees."

They promised each other that they would report the incident to police the following morning.

"But we didn't," the actor confessed. "We told some people in the cast what we had seen, but they didn't believe us."

This was why Giradin maintained a 15-year silence about the incident.

"If people we knew didn't believe us," he explained, "how could we expect the local police to believe us?"

The incident made him a firm believer in UFOs, he concluded.

THE NATIONAL TATTLER
January 27, 1974 Page 17